

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home!

Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity October 13, 1946

FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH Maryland St. & Ellice Ave Winnipeg

Rev. A. B. Midland, Pastor (122 Borebank St. (Phone 404 329 Mr. Leslie Hall, Organist and Choirmaster

* * *

SERVICE FOR HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Organ Prelude Processional Hymn #484 7 The Service page Introit (to be read responsively) 186 Gloria Patri, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis 9 Collect 186 Epistle, II Cor. 9:6.11 The Hallelujahs Anthem, HYMN OF THANKSGIVING by E. Kremser Gospel, Luke 12:15-21 Apostles' Creed 12 Duet, O LOVELY PEACE by Handel Sung by Mrs C Mutimer & Mr Leslie Hall Hymn #283 Sermon Offertory and Offering 14 General Prayer and Lord's Prayer Benediction Recessional Hymn #485 Organ Postlude after Silent Prayer

Visitors are most welcome to our Services and are invited to sign the guest register in the vestibule of the Church.

* * *

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Oct 14, Church Council meets at the parsonage, 122 Borebank St. 8:15 P.M.

\$5-JA

Wednesday, LUTHERAN WORLD ACTION RALLY

at Church. 8:00 P.M.

Friday, W.A. work at Church 1:00 P.M. Choir Practice 8:00 P.M.

Sunday, Oct 20, Sunday School 10:00 A.M.

DIVINE SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

* * *

NOTES

NEXT WEDNESDAY EVENING, there will be a great rally of Lutherans from this area in our Church. The purpose is to impart information on what Lutheran World Action and Canadian Lutheran World Relief has been doing in stricken Europe, and to stimulate interest and enthusiasm to complete our objectives. Our own congregation has more than met its quotas, but we will be glad to hear about conditions across the seas and how they are being cared for.

Dr. Paul Empie from New York, Director of Lutheran World Action will give the main address. The choir from First Icelandic Lutheran Church directed by Mr. Lupton will sing. Our own organist will accompany the service.

THOSE INTERESTED in becoming members of this congregation may be received at a special service on Advent Sunday, Dec. 1. Instructions preparatory to membership for those who have not been members of the Lutheran Church will be held immediately following Divine Services on the four Sundays in November. If you are interested, or if you have acquaintances who may be, please speak to the Pastor after Service today, or some time soon.

A Prayer for Life

Sunday after Sunday, Lutherans in Woodstock, Va., heard the same prayer from the lips of their pastor, Peter Muhlenberg. Its petitions accurately foreshadowed the three phases of his life. The prayer began:

Hold us up, O Lord our God, that we may live; and let our hope never make us ashamed. . . .

This typified Peter Muhlenberg the minister. His father, Patriarch Henry Melchior Muhlenberg could imagine his son only in the pastorate and in 1767 placed him with the Rev. Charles Wrangel to study theology. In 1771 he accepted a call to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

The 1770's were exciting times. Revolution was in the air. Boston had held its tea party and Patrick Henry was stirring the colonists with fiery speeches. An eloquent speaker himself, Peter soon found himself sitting in the Virginia House of Burgesses vigorously supporting his liberty-loving friends.

In 1776 came the Sunday on which he stepped out of the ministry. In his usual prayer he had petitioned God:

Help us by Thy might, that we may wax strong. . . .

This illustrates Muhlenberg the warrior. Virginia's Assembly summoned him to lead a battalion in the Revolutionary army. Word spread that the young parson would preach his farewell sermon. From miles around people came to hear him. "There is a time to preach and a time to pray," he told the tense congregation, "but there is also a time to fight. That time has come." He threw back his preacher's robe revealing himself in the uniform of an army colonel.

His men followed him through the South, along the Brandywine in Pennsylvania and at Germantown. They camped at Valley Forge, fought their way into New York and took part in the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown. At the close of the war Muhlenberg claimed "it never would do to mount the parson after the soldier." He en-



tered politics but never lost sight of the "high calling" which motivates Christian lives. His congregational prayer always had concluded:

So shall we ever delight ourselves in Thy statutes, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. These words reveal Muhlenberg as a statesman. He first was elected to the supreme executive council of Pennsylvania. Later, under the new constitution of the United States, he was elected to the first Congress.

Peter continued active in church work, leading a group in organizing St. John's Church, Philadelphia, the first English-language Lutheran congregation in America. To those opposing this move, he said, "The evangelical doctrine does not depend upon this language or that."

He died Oct. 1, 1807 on the 61st anniversary of his birth, and was buried at the old Trappe Church near Collegeville, Pa. Recently a statue of Peter Muhlenberg, pictured above, was unveiled at Muhlenberg College. This year is the 200th anniversary of the preacher—warrior—statesman's birth.